

of the remedial action, not to exceed 10. So a total of \$15,000, more than likely, for any of these what we have classified as small operators. Mrs. Jeanneret's operation should fall under the parameters of this law, beings that she stopped operating her station in July '89, so only pumped fuel for a half a year before the report of the release. So she reported the release in '90, so she operated for six months previous...in the previous year, which is how the law reads, and, hopefully, and it should be so, hopefully, she pumped less than 250,000 gallons in that half a year. If so, then this amendment will allow her only, Mrs. Jeanneret, 77 years old, still working every day to support herself, will only have to pay \$15,000 out of her savings to take care of this problem that she basically inherited. Folks, when we start looking at this, and the thing Senator Warner and Senator Schmit have been talking about, let's have compassion for the taxpayers that are, some say, bearing the burden of this bill, the costs of this environmental program, although they all benefit. But let's also have some compassion for the other people. If we're going to err, let's err on the side of the state picking up part of that tab, at least give the people like Mrs. Jeanneret a \$10,000 break, if at all possible. If we're going to err, let's err on the side of the little people, the people that truly, truly deserve it, because if she had closed that station on December 29th or 30th, six months previous to when she did, then she wouldn't come under this exemption, and she'd have to pay the \$25,000, which some people don't think is too bad in Mrs. Jeanneret's case, and in other cases like this. There's more than this constituent of mine, there are many cases, if you talk to the marketers, that are very similar, old folks. And if they don't fall in these certain strict parameters that we have given to them in this amendment, then they're going to be hurt, and some of them hurt badly. So when we consider the taxpayers that are paying the bill on their gas tax, let's also consider their benefits from the very efficient distribution system in existence and the benefit of all these stations in other service areas, and also the hardships on some of these folks that just got into trouble for no fault of their own.

PRESIDENT MOUL: One minute.

SENATOR MORRISSEY: Again I state, if she'd closed a little bit earlier, she wouldn't come under the "small dealer exemption". So when we err, folks, let's err on the side of the folks that are...that we will really put in jeopardy with this bill. Thank